

## Deadlines for naming an education commissioner

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HB 891 by Grusendorf/Parker

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DIGEST:	HB 891 would have set a timetable for the State Board of Education (SBOE) to nominate a commissioner of education and for the governor to respond. It would have required the SBOE to send a nomination in writing to the governor no later than 30 days after a commissioner's term expired or 180 days after a commissioner resigned. The governor would have had 30 days to reject or accept the nominee. If the governor rejected the appointment, or the nominee was not confirmed by the Senate, the SBOE would have had another 30 days to make a nomination, and the governor would have had another 30 days to respond. The bill would have allowed the governor to appoint a commissioner if the SBOE did not produce a nominee within 30 days, and a SBOE nominee would have been considered automatically appointed if the governor did not appoint or reject the nominee within 30 days.
GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:	"The appointment of a commissioner of education for the state of Texas is uniquely a function of the Governor's Office and this legislation would unnecessarily interfere with that function and prerogative."
RESPONSE:	Rep. Kent Grusendorf, author of HB 891, said: "I am surprised the governor vetoed the bill because she had been in favor of it when it was filed." He said he had no idea why she might have vetoed the bill but surmised that it might have been for some reason unrelated to the actual bill.
NOTES:	HB 891 was analyzed in the April 15 <i>Daily Floor Report</i> .